

FINANCE/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October 13, 2009

The Finance/Executive Committee of the Grant County Board of Supervisors met on Tuesday, October 13, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 266 of the Administration Building, Lancaster, WI, pursuant to the adjournment of the October 6, 2009 meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mark Stead. Members present were John Patcle, Stephen Adrian, Robert Keeney, Hans Kostrau and Lynn Moris. Eugene Bartels asked to be excused.

John Patcle, seconded by Stephen Adrian, moved that the meeting is in compliance with the open meeting law. Motion carried.

Lynn Moris, seconded by Hans Kostrau, moved to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Chair Mark Stead informed the Committee of an e-mail from Deputy Jay Fitzgerald, WPPA Steward, to Personnel Director Joyce Roling in follow-up to the e-mail read at the October 6 meeting. Fitzgerald's e-mail stated that the health insurance savings referenced in the original e-mail could be researched if the County Board chose; he was relying on information previously provided by Frank Matel and Steve Urso. Stead noted that the information was outdated as Frank Matel has not been with the county for seven years.

Stead outlined the process in identifying the proposed budget revisions with the cooperation of the department heads. Finance Director Nancy Scott reviewed the proposed changes which should result in no change in the county's mill rate. Individuals whose property has been reassessed may see an increase in their taxes if the assessed value increased. Stephen Adrian stated he would like to see more reserve built up in case gas prices increase, for example, possibly by asking departments for a 0.5% reduction or by identifying other cost savings. Stead noted that although it has been suggested to look at consolidating departments or functions, that requires thorough analysis to make decisions that are in the best long-term interest of the county and cannot be done in the few weeks remaining to complete the 2010 budget. It was noted that if cost saving changes are identified, those can be implemented at any time during the year. Supervisor Kyle Vesperman expressed concern with the use of carryovers to balance the budget and the impact on future years, stating that he believes it is time to raise taxes. Hans Kostrau, seconded by Robert Keeney, moved to recommend the revised budget to the County Board. The motion carried.

Stephen Adrian, seconded by John Patcle, moved to adjourn to November 3, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. Motion carried.